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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Copper Production in and near Boleslawiec

REPORT

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1. Boleslawiec (Bunzlau - O 52/B 42) in Silesia has become a center for copper production in Poland. The Polish government expects that the production of copper ore in Poland at the end of the six-year plan will amount to three million tons.
 the Silesian copper ore contains a very low percentage of pure copper, the cost of producing copper from such ore does not concern the Polish government, due to its use of forced labor.
2. At Boleslawiec, there is one foundry which will produce 20,000 tons of pure copper in 1954; this is far below the level set by the Polish government.
3. Southeast of Boleslawiec, in the direction of Nowa Wies (Neudorf) and near the railroad station of Grodziec (Groeditz), there are four or five copper mines which are being enlarged and which form the Konrad combine. These mines include the following: Konrad I, Konrad II, Libichowa and Upadowa. The fifth mine was the first to be set up
4. The mines are at various stages of production, three of them having just recently been built. The Konrad mines are believed to date from the German occupation and to have been reconstructed and modernized. Technical equipment for the mines comes in part from the Soviet Union recently, some machines have come from East Germany.
5. The railroad net in the area around the mines is being greatly enlarged through the construction of new lines, branches and platforms. The mines, which lie at the foot of two mountains and are separated from each other by about three kilometers, each have their own rail line.
6. The production of copper is being greatly developed, but this development is hampered by the lack of manpower. Farmers from the surrounding area are being recruited for the industry. The government has promised the farmers that they can retain their farms and that they will be furnished with additional agricultural machinery. In return, either they or their sons must work in the copper mines, where they receive training for their new jobs. the government has been successful in getting the farmers to do this.

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